University of Suffolk

DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>PgD Advanced Healthcare Practice</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Awarding Bodies</td>
<td>University of Suffolk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level of Award(^1)</td>
<td>FHEQ Level 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Bodies Recognition</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Credit Structure(^2)</td>
<td>120 credits at level 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mode of Attendance</td>
<td>Part-time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standard Length of Course(^3)</td>
<td>2 years part-time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intended Award</td>
<td>PgD Advanced Healthcare Practice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Named Exit Awards</td>
<td>PgC Advanced Healthcare Practice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entry Requirements(^4)</td>
<td>No less than two years post registration experience with no less than six months experience in the relevant clinical speciality Current registration with the relevant regulatory body e.g. NMC, HCPC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delivering Institution</td>
<td>Ipswich</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

This definitive record sets out the essential features and characteristics of the PgD Advanced Healthcare Practice course. The information provided is accurate for students entering level 7 in the 2018-19 academic year.\(^5\)

Course Summary

This programme of study has been designed to meet the needs of a diverse range of health and social care professionals including Nurses, Midwives, Health Visitors, Allied Health Professionals and those working in the field of social care practice.

Students will be supported to develop a critical awareness of current problems and new insights at the forefront of their professional practice. Students will examine care development and delivery from their own professional standpoint and also take account of how other disciplines challenge and contribute to the quality of care delivery.

This Post Graduate Diploma provides the opportunity for students to engage in a critical exploration of the Advanced Practice agenda in healthcare practice coupled with modules designed to facilitate knowledge and skills in relation to assessment/examination skills and...
pathophysiology during the first year of study. Year two commences with the Non-Medical Prescribing module which should be considered core unless the student has already completed the Prescribing qualification or works in a profession where Non-Medical Prescribing is not supported. In this case, students will be supported by the course team to choose two optional modules of study.

**Course Aims**

- To enable students to engage in critical debate of issues pertinent to the roles and responsibilities within advanced professional practice and respond to them appropriately
- To develop practitioners who are able to work in a professionally autonomous way within their area of practice and who are accountable for their own professional and clinical decisions
- To enable students to critically evaluate personal and professional development needs in relation to advanced professional practice and implement appropriate responses
- To enable student’s to meet the challenges of undertaking research at master’s level within their field of practice
- To develop an individual who is able to act as a role model and an educator to initiate change and management development opportunities within the clinical setting

**Course Learning Outcomes**

The following statements define what students graduating from the PgD Advanced Healthcare Practice course will have been judged to have demonstrated in order to achieve the award. These statements, known as learning outcomes, have been formally approved as aligned with the generic qualification descriptor for level 7 awards as set out by the UK Quality Assurance Agency (QAA).  

At the end of the course students will be able to:

**Knowledge and understanding and cognitive skills**

1. Independently propose and evaluate alternative approaches to person-centred practice
2. Critically appraise conceptual models, theories and vocabulary in the subjects covered within the course
3. Deal with complexity and contradiction in knowledge proffered for practice
4. Make sound judgments in the absence of complete data

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University of Suffolk

DEFINITIVE COURSE RECORD

5. Discern between different research methods and their suitability for undertaking research in specific areas of person centred, compassionate care

6. Demonstrate systematic knowledge, understanding and critical awareness of current problems within their field of practice

7. Synthesise information and ideas and develop a creative approach to problem solving in advanced practice

8. Engage with colleagues to discuss and critically debate a variety of perspectives

9. Critically evaluate the impact of health and social care policy on patients / clients / relevant others and health care practitioners and evaluate the culture of the specific clinical area of work in relation to the institution in which they practice

10. Undertake a comprehensive assessment of a patient and accurately interpret findings in order to develop a suitable plan of person centred, compassionate care

Subject Specific Skills

11. Demonstrate expertise in a variety of contexts within their field of practice

12. Effectively engage others in the delivery of enhanced, person-centred care

13. Take responsibility for personal and professional development in relation to advanced practice

14. Work as an autonomous practitioner within an inter-professional team that values person centred care

15. Demonstrate the ability to deliver an appropriate range of interventions based on the situation of the patient

16. Identify the scope and limitations of their role, including critically evaluating legal and ethical implications with respect to other members of staff, local and national policies and frameworks

Key / Common Skills

17. Critically analyse and appraise existing sources of information

18. Critically evaluate elements of management and leadership in relation to the advanced practice role

19. Demonstrate the ability to present complex arguments to a group in a competent manner
20. Demonstrate self-reflectivity and an awareness of the need for continuing professional development

21. Work collaboratively with others within health care and the wider environment to enhance the understanding of advanced professional practice

22. Utilise problem-solving skills in a variety of theoretical and practical settings

Course Design
The design of this course has been guided by the following Professional Standards and Royal College of Nursing Competency Frameworks:

- RCN Domains and Competencies for Advanced Practice
- NHS Knowledge and Skills Framework
- Department of Health Advanced Practice Competencies

Course Structure
The PgD Advanced Healthcare Practice comprises modules at level 7.

Module Specifications for each of these modules are included within the course handbook, available to students on-line at the beginning of each academic year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Module Type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Level 7</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principles of Advanced Healthcare Practice OR</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enhancing Clinical Practice in Health and Social Care</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holistic Assessment of Adults in Specific Care Settings</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Applied Pathophysiology for Healthcare Practitioners</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Methods</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Where appropriate this module will be offered as a distance learning module to afford students greater flexibility</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</table>

And:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Module Type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Independent and Supplementary Non-Medical Prescribing</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
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</table>

**NB:** For students that have already completed the prescribing qualification at Level 6 or for whom prescribing is not available to their registered profession, optional modules will be available for study. Academic advice and guidance will be offered

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7 Modules are designated as either mandatory (M), requisite (R) or optional (O). For definitions, see the Framework and Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Awards.
Awards
On successful completion of the course, students will be awarded a PgD Advanced Healthcare Practice. Students who leave the course early may be eligible for a PgC Advanced Healthcare Practice on successful completion of 60 credits.

Course Delivery
The course is delivered at Ipswich. Students studying part-time on PgD Advanced Healthcare Practice are likely to have approximately 30 contact hours per semester. The contact hours will be a mix of lectures, seminars and practical activity. Students will normally be expected to undertake 10 hours of independent study in an average week, but should be prepared for this to vary based on assignment deadlines and class exercises.

Course Assessment
A variety of assessments will be used on the course to enable students to experience and adapt to different assessment styles. The assessment methods used will be appropriate to assess each module’s intended learning outcomes. Assessment on the course will include essays, seminar presentations, one written examination and one Objective Structured Clinical Examination during year one and a combination of essays, seminar presentations, examinations and Objective Structured Clinical Examinations during year two.

Course Team
The academic staff delivering this course are drawn from a team that includes teaching specialists and current practitioners. All staff are qualified in their subjects with their own specialist knowledge to contribute.

Course Costs
Students undertaking PgD Advanced Healthcare Practice will be charged tuition fees as detailed below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Group</th>
<th>Tuition Fees</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Full-time UK/EU</td>
<td>Not applicable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part-time UK/EU</td>
<td>£850 per 20 credit module</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full-time International</td>
<td>Not applicable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part-time International</td>
<td>£1,165 per 20 credit module</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Payment of tuition fees is due at the time of enrolment and is managed in accordance with the Tuition Fee Policy.

Academic Framework and Regulations
This course is delivered according to the Framework and Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Awards and other academic policies and procedures of the University and published on the website.